

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, comprising the steps of:

setting access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource;

receiving a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the user and a device identifier for the device making the request;

locating session context information based on the device identifier, the session context information having been associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

locating access privileges in response to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

authorizing a current session between the device and the resource based on the located access privileges and the session context information.

2. (Currently Amended) A system comprising a digital processor for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, the system comprising:

a gateway application executing on the digital processor for setting access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

a communications interface coupled with the digital processor for receiving a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the

user and a device identifier for the device making the request,

the gateway application being responsive to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request and:

(i) locating session context information based on the device identifier, the session context information having been associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

(ii) locating access privileges based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

(iii) the gateway application authorizing a current session between the device and the resource based on the located access privileges and session context information.

3. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium having computer program instructions stored thereon for authorizing access by a user to a resource over a wireless local area network, such that the computer program instructions, when performed by a digital processor, cause the digital processor to:

set access privileges to the resource for a cluster of users of the wireless local area network, wherein the cluster is indicative of the user's role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource;

receive a request from a device controlled by the user to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the user having a membership in the cluster, and the request including a user identifier for the user and a device identifier for the device making the request;

locate, in response to the device identifier, session context information associated with the device identifier during a previous wireless session;

locate, in response to the user identifier and the device identifier in the received request, access privileges based on the device identifier, the user identifier, and the cluster; and

authorize a current session between the device and the resource based on the located access privileges and the session context information.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for managing context information for a wireless local area network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request;

locating, in response to the received request, session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information having been assigned to the device during a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

providing the session context information to the device for use in a current session between the device and the resource.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the wireless local area network is based on a radio frequency suitable for use in local wireless communications.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein communications over the wireless local area network are based on a spread-spectrum technique based on a carrier frequency greater than about 2,000 megahertz.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the device identifier is a unique identification number.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the session context information includes an internet protocol address assigned to the device in the previous ~~secure~~ wireless session.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the access privileges associated with a cluster of users was set for the cluster in a previous request to access the resource.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the device is a voice-enabled communications device, and the gateway server is adapted for voice-enabled network communications.

11. (Currently Amended) A system comprising a digital processor for managing context information for a wireless local area network, the system comprising:

a communications interface coupled with the digital processor for receiving a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request; and

a gateway application executing on the digital processor, in response to the received request, the gateway application locating session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information associated with a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource, and providing the session context information for use in a current session between the device and the resource.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the wireless local area network is based on a radio frequency suitable for use in local wireless communications.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein communications over the wireless local area network are based on a spread-spectrum technique based on a carrier frequency greater than about 2,000 megahertz.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the device identifier is a unique identification number.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the session context information includes an internet protocol address assigned to the device in the previous ~~secure~~ wireless session.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the access privileges associated with a cluster of users was set for the cluster in a previous request to access the resource.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the device is a voice-enabled communications device, and the gateway server is adapted for voice-enabled network communications.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a computer usable medium having computer program instructions stored thereon for managing context information for a wireless local area network, such that the computer program instructions, when performed by a digital processor, cause the digital processor to:

receive a request to access the resource over the wireless local area network, the request including a device identifier for a device making the request;

locate, in response to the received request, session context information associated with the device identifier, the session context information associated with a previous wireless session between the device and the resource and including access privileges associated with a cluster of users, wherein the cluster is indicative of the users' role in an organization and the access privileges represent data access rights of members of the cluster to the resource; and

provide the session context information for use in a current session between the device and the resource.